

**CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

1           1.     A system for organizing and navigating through files, comprising:  
2                 means for providing a plurality of files, each file comprising at least two  
3     attributes;  
4                 means for mapping the at least two attributes into at least two dimensions;  
5                 means for rendering the at least two attributes representing each file into three-  
6     dimensional space, where an icon represents each file; and  
7                 means for navigating through the three-dimensional space to view the icons  
8     representing each of the files.

1           2.     The system of claim 1, wherein the attributes define the position of the  
2     files in the three-dimensional space.

1           3.     The system of claim 1, wherein each file corresponds to a photographic  
2     image.

1           4.     The system of claim 1, wherein the means for navigating through the  
2     three-dimensional space is selected from the group consisting of a mouse, a pointer, a  
3     joystick, a touch sensitive device, and an interactive feedback glove.

1           5.     The system of claim 1, wherein each of the at least two attributes  
2     corresponds to a numerical value, and the numerical values locate the file in at least two  
3     dimensions when viewed in the three-dimensional space.

1           6.     The system of claim 1, further comprising means for rendering the at  
2     least two attributes in three-dimensional space with respect to a particular vantage point.

1           7.     The system of claim 1, further comprising means for adjusting the  
2     vantage point as a user navigates through the three-dimensional space.

1           8.     The system of claim 7, wherein the means for adjusting the vantage point  
2     as a user navigates through the three-dimensional space scales the three-dimensional  
3     space to retain visibility of each file.

1           9.     The system of claim 1, further comprising means for accessing the three-  
2     dimensional space using a database query.

1           10.    The system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the attributes represents  
2     time.

1           11.     A method for organizing and navigating through files, comprising:  
2           providing a plurality of files, each file comprising at least two attributes;  
3           mapping the at least two attributes into at least two dimensions;  
4           rendering the at least two attributes representing each file into three-dimensional  
5           space, where an icon represents each file; and  
6           navigating through the three-dimensional space to view the icons representing  
7           each of the files.

1           12.     The method of claim 11, wherein the attributes define the position of the  
2           files in the three-dimensional space.

1           13.     The method of claim 11, wherein each file corresponds to a photographic  
2           image.

1           14.     The method of claim 11, wherein each of the at least two attributes  
2           corresponds to a numerical value, and the numerical values locate the file in at least two  
3           dimensions when viewed in the three-dimensional space.

1           15.     The method of claim 11, further comprising rendering the at least two  
2           attributes in three-dimensional space with respect to a particular vantage point.

1           16.     The method of claim 11, further comprising adjusting the vantage point  
2           as a user navigates through the three-dimensional space.

1           17.     The method of claim 16, further comprising scaling the three-dimensional  
2 space to retain visibility of each file.

1           18.     The method of claim 11, further comprising accessing the three-  
2 dimensional space using a database query.

1           19.     The method of claim 11, wherein at least one of the attributes represents  
2 time.

1           20.     A system for organizing and navigating through files, comprising:  
2 a plurality of files, each file comprising at least two attributes;  
3 a first code segment for mapping the at least two attributes into at least two  
4 dimensions;  
5 a graphical user interface for rendering the at least two attributes representing  
6 each file into three-dimensional space, where an icon represents each file; and  
7 where the graphical user interface allows a user to navigate through the three-  
8 dimensional space to view the icons representing each of the files.

1           21.     The system of claim 20, wherein the attributes define the position of the  
2 files in the three-dimensional space.

1           22.     The system of claim 20, wherein each file corresponds to a photographic  
2 image.

1           23.    The system of claim 20, wherein the graphical user interface receives  
2    commands from a device selected from the group consisting of a mouse, a pointer, a  
3    joystick, a touch sensitive device, and an interactive feedback glove.

1           24.    The system of claim 20, wherein each of the at least two attributes  
2    corresponds to a numerical value, and the numerical values locate the file in at least two  
3    dimensions when viewed in the three-dimensional space.

1           25.    The system of claim 20, wherein the graphical user interface renders the  
2    at least two attributes in three-dimensional space with respect to a particular vantage  
3    point.

1           26.    The system of claim 20, wherein the graphical user interface adjusts the  
2    vantage point as a user navigates through the three-dimensional space.

1           27.    The system of claim 26, wherein the graphical user interface scales the  
2    three-dimensional space to retain visibility of each file.

1           28.    The system of claim 20, wherein the three-dimensional space is accessed  
2    using a database query.

1           29.    The system of claim 20, wherein at least one of the attributes represents  
2    time.